



January 2014

Connections

News for Health Care Providers and Professionals
Illinois Health Information Exchange (ILHIE)
Illinois Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT)

NorthShore University HealthSystems Using ILHIE to Improve Care Coordination

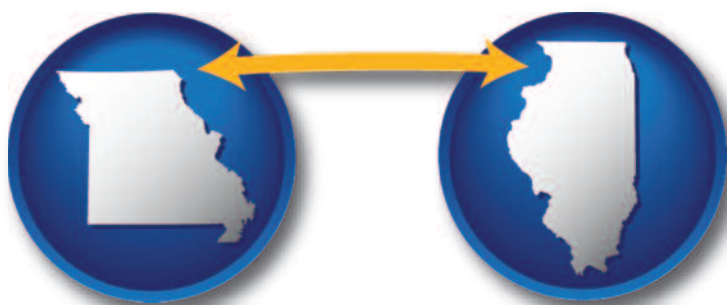
NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) is now using ILHIE's Integrated Direct service to exchange patient transition of care summaries securely and in real time with 14 long term health care facilities. Integrated Direct allow users to send ILHIE Direct messages right from their EHR, leading to a faster more streamlined workflow.



Transitions of care between acute, post-acute, and long-term care providers can pose multiple challenges, and when not handled efficiently, can lead to higher hospital readmissions and poor health outcomes. Integrated Direct addresses those challenges by helping ensure the most up-to-date, comprehensive information on a patient arrives before the patient does.

"We are excited to be working with the ILHIE on this initiative. Our goal is to improve the continuum of patient care with the long term care facilities and also to reduce hospital readmissions. This new integration has the potential for great success and will also be used to connect with other providers of care going forward," said Steven Smith, Chief Information Officer of NorthShore.

Missouri Health Connection and ILHIE Agree to Expand Data Exchange Across State Borders



Missouri Health Connection (MHC) and ILHIE recently entered into an agreement that will provide health care professionals in both states with more complete patient information at the point of care. Interstate data sharing is particularly important for residents living and working near the Illinois-Missouri border, since patients frequently cross state lines to receive care.

"Health care does not neatly follow state borders, so information about patients needs to follow them wherever they go," said Raul Recarey, Executive Director of ILHIE. "Many Illinois patients from the southern portion of Illinois are referred to Missouri hospitals. The ILHIE/MHC agreement will allow providers from both states to have access to critically important patient data, regardless of whether that data resides in Missouri or Illinois."

Providers Caring for Patients in Underserved Communities Connect to ILHIE

The ILHIE has successfully connected Near North Health Service Corporation, Erie Family Health Center, Heartland Health Outreach, Howard Brown Health Center and PCC Community Wellness Center to its electronic records exchange service, ILHIE Connect. These innovative providers are paving the way as active users of health information technology to improve care coordination for patients in underserved communities.



Raul Recarey, Executive Director of the ILHIE states, “We are delighted to see community health centers take the lead and become early adopters of health information exchange services. Their forward-thinking approach demonstrates their firm commitment to providing the highest quality health care to the populations they serve.” Recarey continues; “the health IT innovators connecting to ILHIE contribute greatly to the development of our statewide network. As more health care providers are able to exchange patient records with organizations such as these, we will start to see a positive impact on patient care and outcomes.”

Through ILHIE Connect, a secure, electronic, patient health record request and retrieval service, providers can view an aggregated patient record that includes information from multiple clinical sites, giving them information at the point of care they need to make more informed care, clinical and treatment decisions. Connecting to ILHIE Connect also helps providers achieve Stage 2 meaningful use in 2014 under the Medicare and Medicaid electronic health records incentive programs.



ILHIE Launches New Care Coordination Web Page

To learn more about how electronic information exchange can save your organization thousands of hours a year, improve care coordination and even increase privacy, the ILHIE has launched its new Care Coordination web page. To access the page, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/ILHIE-carecoordination>.



ILHIE's Integrated Direct Service – An EHR-Integrated, Secure Messaging Solution

Integrated Direct users can sign into their EHR and exchange clinical data both within and **outside** their EHR system to other health care entities such as physician practices, hospitals, and health centers, and even patients.

Using Integrated Direct expands your EHR's functionality and extends your communications network. Just sign into your EHR and send secure messages with attachments such as continuity of care documents, transfers of care, discharges, referrals and lab images.

Integrated Direct is a nationally certified tool to help achieve Stage 2 meaningful use. For more information about how the ILHIE can help providers to achieve many of the Stage 2 meaningful use objectives, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/ILHIEMU2-Flyer>.

The ILHIE is pleased to offer Integrated Direct at a very low cost. For details, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/ILHIEDirectPricing>

Our expert IT team is pleased to facilitate a seamless integration of Integrated Direct. Please contact Frank Kisner, Director of Client Relationships, at frank.kisner@illinois.gov or call 312-814-1254.

ILHIE's Public Health Reporting Service for Eligible Hospitals and Professionals

The ILHIE has a secure connection to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). In the past, reports have been submitted to IDPH in various formats, including online entry into web-based reporting systems, via fax and even on paper. The ILHIE Public Health Reporting service minimizes the need to manually enter and submit paper reports, streamlining public health reporting and greatly reducing the hospital and health professional's reporting burden.



Connect Now!

- Register your intent to submit public health data for meaningful use at <https://murs.illinois.gov/>
- Providers do not need to subscribe to other ILHIE services to benefit from ILHIE's Public Health Reporting service
- Technical support from ILHIE and IDPH staff is available

To learn more about available options and to establish a secure connection contact: HFS.PHMU@illinois.gov

ILHIE Consent Policy

In May 2013 the Illinois General Assembly passed HB1017 (Public Act 93-378), which amends the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act. Upon the bill's passage and signing into law, the ILHIE Data Security and Privacy Committee (DSPC) established several work groups to help. The Workshop has developed the privacy, security and consent policies governing the exchange of patient health information through the ILHIE Connect service.

Work Groups were created to shape ILHIE policy in three major areas: the Patient Choice and Meaningful Disclosure Work Group, the Patient Consent Preferences and Data Security Work Group, and the Breach Response Protocol Work Group. The work groups included of a broad array of over 100 interested stakeholders, including providers, patients, regional health information exchanges, health plan payers, subject matter experts, government agencies, and the public at large.

After many public meetings and months of deliberation, the following milestones and objectives were reached:

- Definition of the meaningful disclosure standard
- Creation of a patient policy
- Development of a patient choice and meaningful disclosure policy and procedure
- Protection of patient rights
- Creation of a breach policy

The ILHIE Authority Board formally adopted the Patient Consent Policy Recommendation on November 7, 2013.

Get Connected – ILHIE Services

- **ILHIE Connect** – A secure, electronic, patient health record request and retrieval service
- **ILHIE Direct** – A web-based, secure messaging solution
- **Integrated Direct** – An EHR-integrated, secure messaging solution
- **Public Health Reporting** – A streamlined, secure connection to the Illinois Department of Public Health for Eligible Providers and Hospitals to submit meaningful use data



For more information about ILHIE's services visit www.ilhie.org or contact Frank Kisner at frank.kisner@illinois.gov or 312-814-1254.

For more information:

To learn more about health information exchange in Illinois visit HIE.Illinois.gov

To learn more about what is happening nationally visit HealthIT.gov

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